

CAPSULE SUMMARY - HORSMON BARN 'C' (CT-1067)

Horsmon Barn 'C' is located on a large farm in St. Leonard that consists of two farmhouses and four tobacco barns. The farm no longer produces tobacco and instead focuses on a variety of market crops (eg. hay, cantaloupes, pumpkins and chrysanthemums). This barn is another of Calvert County's 19th century tobacco barns that has undergone such an evolution that its age is obscured. The structure consists of a 32 x 22 foot wide cross axial plan main section and an original 13 foot wide shed on the north side (replacement of an original or early shed), and a 32 foot long extension to the east of both the barn and the north shed. A cinder block stripping room is located off the north side of the structure. The barn expansion and exterior stripping room construction are 20th century in date and provide insights into changing agricultural practices in this period.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1067

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Horsmon Barn C

2. Location

street & number Intersection of Mackall and Parran Rds. ___ not for publication

city, town St. Leonard ___ vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: unused

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. Richard and Mrs. Phyllis Horsmon

street & number Mackall and Parran Rds. telephone no.: 586-0936

city, town St. Leonard state and zip code MD 20685

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse libe~~ABE~~ 263

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 32

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1067

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See Attachment.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1067

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See Attachment.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1067

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Broomes Island, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tora Williamsen-Berry

organization c/o Calvert County Historic District Commission
Dept. of Planning and Zoning date June 30, 1990

street & number Courthouse telephone 535-1600

city or town Prince Frederick state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1067

The Horsmon farm is situated at the intersection of Mackall and Parran roads. There are four barns on the farm. Horsmon barn C is the southernmost of the barns. Horsmon barn D is nearby and slightly to the northeast. Barn C is oriented on an east-west axis. Barns C and D are near each other, approximately one-quarter of a mile to the southwest from A and B. All four barns and the farmhouse are connected by farm roads. The old farm house sits on a hill to the west of A and B and to the north of C and D. Horsmon barn C is a complex structure formed of an original barn nineteenth century barn with both an original and an added shed, to which an addition was made. The plan of the original small barn is cross-axial. The early barn is built of hewn timber and fully mature machine cut nails. Later additions are built of circular sawn lumber and wire nails. There is also a later cinder block stripping house attached to the north side.

The original barn section has a cross-axial plan with doors on the north and south sheds. It measures thirty-two by twenty-two feet wide and has an original thirteen foot wide shed on the south side. The bay system in this early structure is divided into bays measuring nine, four, five, seven, and twelve feet. The timbers are hewn and joined via mortise and tenon joints with trunnels. Fully mature machine cut nails are visible in this early section. Some of the original siding of this section is still visible along the interior south wall. This original siding is formed of extremely wide (one and one half to two foot wide) boards that are tightly fit together. The roof over the early section is shingled (some of the shingles remain in place underneath the standing seam metal roof). This roof is supported by rafters on four foot centers that rest on a flat false plate. It has three collars and some windbraces that support it.

The north shed measures twenty feet wide. It has a double door in its southwest corner, and one centered along the north facade, in addition to a small door that leads into the attached concrete block stripping room. The rafters of the original barn on the north side intersection with the north shed exhibit no nails or nail holes, also no nail holes are on the horizontal nailers. A shed on the north side, therefore, is probably contemporary with the barn. This particular shed, however, uses primarily circular sawn lumber and wire nails, therefore it has probably been largely rebuilt. Some hewn posts remain. Poles run down the central axis of this shed and are separated by ten feet bays.

There is a thirteen by thirty-two foot shed on the south side of the original section of the barn. A door along the south side of the barn leads into this shed. It is divided into three rooms. The two southwest rooms are enclosed stripping rooms, each with their own separate door. The southeast room is a storage area accessed by an open doorway. One of the doorways to the south shed has a Victorian triangular portico above. There is evidence that this south shed was originally a stable. It was later

7. DESCRIPTION (CONT.) CT-1067

adapted for a stripping area, and is now used for storage. The rafters of this shed are leaned against those of the original barn. There are no visible nail holes in the portion of the original barn rafters that extend over the eave-line at

the lean-to intersection. Fieldstones support the south shed and there are some hewn timbers and fully mature machine cut nails visible. It is probable that the south shed is original.

The addition to the barn was built by attaching nailers to the posts of the original barn and then continuing the structure thirty-two feet to the east. Concrete block piers support the addition. Timber and nails used are recent circular sawn lumber and wire nails. This addition is covered with vertical siding. The roof is metal and has always been so. The pitch of the roof and the three collars are the same as those used in the original barn although the materials are different.

There is a corresponding shed to the north side of the original barn built at the same time as the barn addition. Poles run down the central axis of this shed. No sill or wall evidence separates this shed from the barn addition.

The concrete block stripping house to the north has entries from the north shed of the barn and from the west.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1067

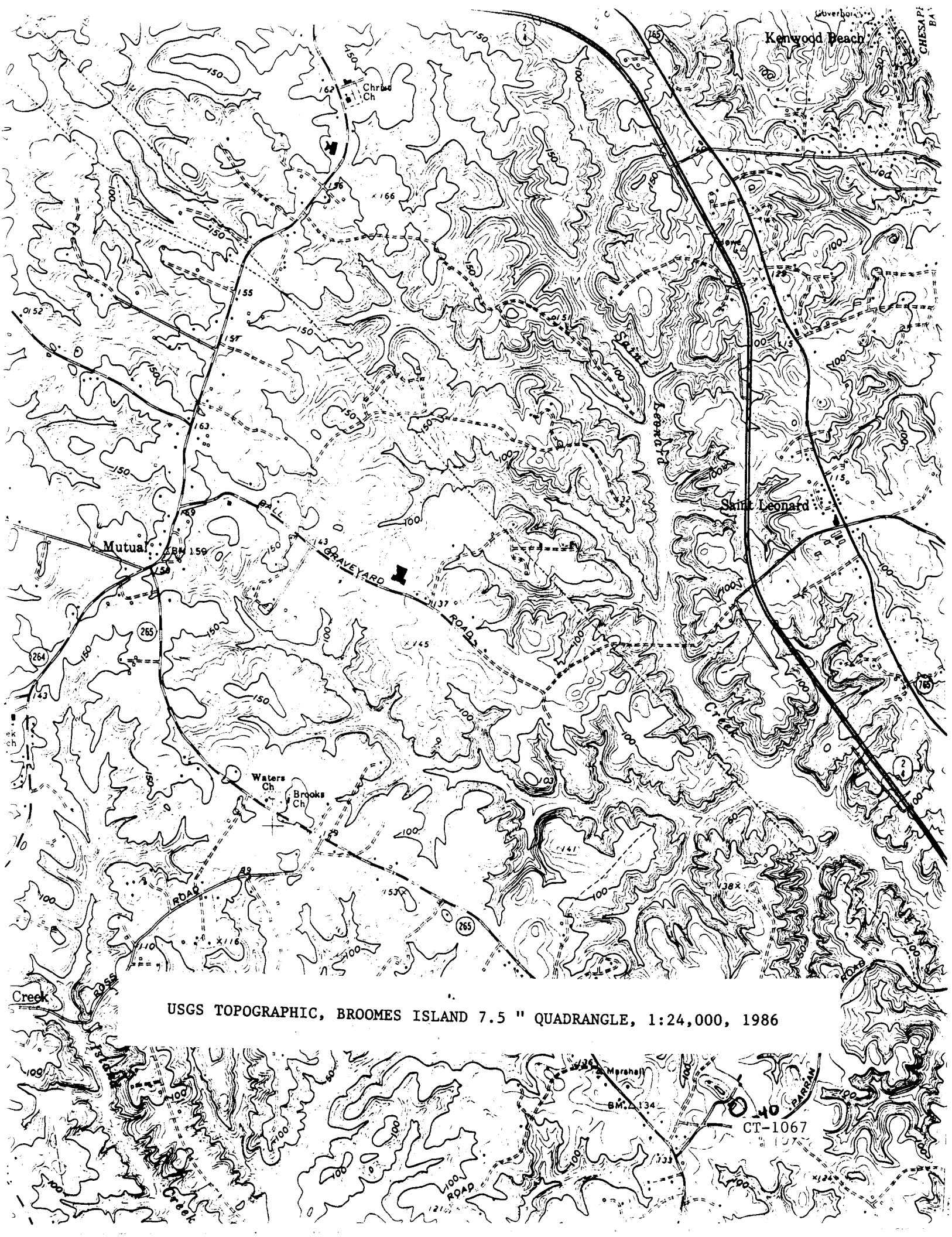
This barn is architecturally significant for several reasons. The original barn and south shed date to before the Civil War. The north shed, also of this date, has been largely rebuilt. The barn expansion to the east and the concrete block stripping room to the north are twentieth-century additions. The thirty-two by twenty-two foot original barn has somewhat unusual measurements. The tight fitting wide board siding on the south side is again associated with a stabling area. Prior to this survey, such siding was thought to be solely indicative of flue-curing. The barn expansion to the east and the building of the concrete block stripping room to the north are both twentieth-century additions and indicative of the expansion of the tobacco industry during this period. The early barn is hidden within the larger overall structure and without an internal inspection it would not have been discovered.

This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to its cultivation than for both of the next most extensive farm products (corn and wheat). The barns and stripping houses related to this "Tobacco Culture" are widely recognized as the most common element on the rural landscape. These structures are also the most threatened, as the market for tobacco declines. They seem to have, at present, only limited capabilities for re-use. Many barns and stripping houses now stand empty. The purpose of this survey has been to gather information and document a wide sample of these structures before they disappear from the landscape.

Historic Period/theme(s): 1830-Present; Tobacco, Agriculture
Geographic Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert
Cty MD

Chronological/Developmental Period: 1830-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn, Stripping Room, Stable

Mrs. Horsmon was not aware of the age of this barn. The changes it has undergone are extensive. These include the removal of the door from the north side of the original barn, and the removal of the shingle roof from the south shed and the original barn. The south shed was originally a stable, then later converted to a stripping area, and today it serves as a storage area. It is likely that this last change took place when the north cinder block stripping room was built. Although there was originally probably a shed on the north side of the barn, the shed there now is of recent construction. Also during the twentieth century, a large thirty-two foot wide addition was built across the entire eastern length of the barn.





CT-1067 Hays mon Barn 'C'

St. Leonard

Tove L. Wilgerson

South

March 1990